(c) if so, the reasons for hospitals and nursing homes having not installed incinerators and made them operational and not managing the waste properly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare does not maintain such information. In so far as Central Government Hospitals in Delhi *viz.*, Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. R.M.L. Hospital, Lady Hardinge Medical College and Associated Hospitals and All India Institute of Medical Sciences are concerned, used syringes are decontaminated at source as per the method laid down in the Bio-Medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998. Thereafter, the same are shredded and disposed of. The incinerators are already installed in all Central Government hospitals, which are operational and functioning satisfactorily.

Control of fatal diseases

†767. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have controlled the growing fatal and dangerous diseases; and

(b) the details of the steps Government have taken to prevent spreading of the dangerous diseases like AIDS, cancer, hepatitis, etc. in the inhabitants of rural areas and unauthorized colonies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has adopted a multi-pronged strategy in order to control the growing fatal and dangerous diseases like AIDS, cancer, hepatitis and is implementing National AIDS Control Programme, National Cancer Control Programme etc. in order to control these diseases.

(b) The details of the steps taken by the Government to control growing fatal and dangerous diseases are given in the enclosed statement.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

Steps taken by the Government for prevention and control of dreaded diseases such as AIDS, Hepatitis, Cancer etc.

(i) AIDS

In order to prevent and control of HIV/AIDS, a comprehensive Programme is currently under implementation throughout the country as a 100% centrally sponsored scheme. The main components of the programme consist of:—

* Preventive interventions for high risk populations through targeted interventions adopting a multi-pronged strategy including peer counselling and behaviour change communication.
* Preventive interventions for the general population through programmes for blood safety, voluntary counselling and testing services, Information Education and Communication (IEC) and awareness building among adolescents.
* Provision of low cost care and support services by providing community care services, treatment of opportunistic infections and prevention of occupational exposure.
* Collaborative efforts to promote inter-sectoral programme activities including interventions and public-private partnerships..
* Build technical and managerial capacities for programme implementation through surveillance, training, monitoring and evaluation, technical resource groups, operational research and programme management.

(ii) Hepatitis — A, B & C

Hepatitis–A:-It is a water borne disease and is spread through faeco-oral route. Vaccine for prevention of Hepatitis-A is not indigenously produced but is commercially available in the market. As Hepatitis-A is spread through contaminated water, the important prevention and control measures are supply of safe drinking water and sanitation in all areas.

Hepatitis-B:-It is spreaa through unsafe sex, unsafe blood

transfusion, unsafe injections etc. and from mother to child. This is preventable by ensuring safe blood transfusion, safe sex, safe injection practices etc. Vaccine for Hepatitis - B is available. The following measures have been taken to prevent Hepatitis-B:—

* Central Government Hospital personnel at high risk are being immunized against Hepatitis-B. State Governments have also been advised to take similar steps.
* Guidelines have been issued for mandatory testing of blood in all blood banks.
* Promotion of safe sex under National AIDS Control Programme is advocated.
* Health Awareness Campaigns under National AIDS Control Programme are held.
* Guidelines have been issued to State Health Authorities for use of separate sterile syringes and needles for each injection.
* A Pilot Project to immunize children against Hepatitis-B in selected Cities/Districts have been launched under National Immunization Programme by Deptt. of Family Welfare.

Hepatitis-C:—It is spread through unsafe sex, unsafe blood transfusion, unsafe injections etc. and from mother to child. This is preventable by ensuring safe blood transfusion, safe sex, safe injection practices etc. Vaccine for Hepatitis-C is not available. The following measures have been taken to prevent Hepatitis-C:—

* Mandatory testing of blood in all blood banks.
* Promotion of safe sex under National AIDS Control Programme is advocated.
* Health Awareness campaigns under National AIDS Control Programme are held.
* Guidelines have been issued to State Health Authorities for use of separate sterile syringes and needles for each injection.

(iii) Cancer

Under National Cancer Programme, there are 19 Regional Cancer Centres that are providing comprehensive cancer treatment to the patients and conducting research activities. Government of India is providing assistance under various schemes of National Cancer Control Programme to Medical Colleges/NGOs and State Governments for purchase of Cobalt Unit, Linear Accelerator etc. and for conducting awareness and early detection activities on cancer.

Illegible printing of names of medicines

†768. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the names on the allopathic and other medicines being manufactured by Government as well as private Limited Companies are written in very small font which are illegible for patients;

(b) whether the names of the medicines manufactured in the country are not written in Hindi;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of the necessary steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to ensure that names of the medicines are written in the bold letter as well as in Hindi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) No, Sir. Under the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1945, names of the allopathic and other medicines by all companies are required to be printed or written in a conspicuous manner.

(b) to (d) Some manufacturers voluntarily published drug information in Hindi as well as in English on the labels and package inserts for the benefit of the consumers. However, in view of the shortage of space on the label, it has not been considered appropriate to make it mandatory to print labels etc. in more than one language.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.